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In this issue

Top 10 new species
Puerta del Sol protests
Another war in Sudan?
Vaccines explained
World's biggest ship
Most peaceful countries
Intelligent dinosaurs
Bronze age battle
Iceland's volcanic eruption
Food scare in Germany
Jailed driver released in Saudi Arabia
China's exam season
All-seeing reindeer
Pretty pylons?
Forest protest in Phnom Penh
Ancient heart disease
France hosts G8
Queen Anne's Revenge
Incans and llamas
Book review
Glossary and Sudoku prize competitions



Supporters of Ratko Mladić demonstrate in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia, after his arrest

RATKO MLADIĆ FOUND AND ARRESTED

In the early hours of the morning on 26th May, police surrounded several houses in the small Serbian village of Lazarevo, near the border with Romania. In one house they found and arrested Ratko Mladić. This ended a 16-year search for the man accused of crimes against humanity and mass murder, or genocide.

General Mladić was the military commander of the Bosnian Serb army during the 1992 – 1995 war in Bosnia. The war was fought between Serbs and Muslims in Bosnia (also known as Bosnia and Herzegovina).

Bosnia and Serbia were once part of a country called Yugoslavia. In 1991 different regions of Yugoslavia began to break up. They eventually became seven separate countries – Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia and Kosovo.

The splitting up of Yugoslavia led to several wars, mostly among different **ethnic**

and religious groups. This is what happened in Bosnia. When it declared independence in 1991, war broke out between Bosnian Muslims and Serbs living in Bosnia. Croatia also became involved.

Radovan Karadžić was the political leader of the Bosnian Serbs and General Mladić their army commander. Slobodan Milosevic, the president of Serbia at the time, supported them. The three men wanted to create what they called the 'Republic of Srpska'. This would cover about 60% of Bosnia and include the areas in which many Serbs lived. With the use of **intimidation** and murder the army, under the command of General Mladić, forced many non-Serbs in Bosnia, including Muslims and people originally from Croatia, out of their homes. This is known as 'ethnic cleansing'.

Over 100,000 people died in the war in Bosnia. This includes around 8,000

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Muslim men and boys who were deliberately shot. This happened in a place called Srebrenica and is known as the Srebrenica massacre. It was the largest mass-murder in Europe since the Second World War (1939 – 1945). Many others died in the Siege of Sarajevo, the largest city in Bosnia. For several years the Bosnian Serb army placed large guns on the hills surrounding Sarajevo. Together with machine guns these were used to fire at the people who lived in the city. Around 10,000 people were killed during the siege and over 50,000 wounded. This included many children.



European countries and the USA were worried about what was happening in Bosnia. NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) planes were ordered to bomb some of the Bosnian Serb military forces. In 1995 the leaders of Croatia, Bosnia and Serbia were persuaded to attend peace talks in the USA. The talks led to a peace agreement that ended the war. This is called the Dayton Agreement, after the town in the USA in which the agreement was signed.

In 1993 a special court was set up by the United Nations (UN), in The Hague, a city in The Netherlands. The court is called the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). Its job is to put people on trial who are suspected of committing crimes during the wars

in countries that used to be part of Yugoslavia.

After the Dayton Agreement the ICTY said Mr Karadžić, General Mladić, and President Milosevic should be put on trial for war crimes. Mr Karadžić and General Mladić disappeared. NATO forces searched for them but the two men could not be found.

In 2001 Mr Milosevic was sent to the ICTY. By this time he was no longer president of Serbia. Before his trial finished, he died of a heart attack.

Mr Karadžić was discovered and arrested in 2008. He was living in Belgrade, the capital of Serbia. The former political leader of the Bosnian Serbs had changed his name and disguised himself by growing a long beard. Soon afterwards he was sent to the ICTY. His trial is still going on.

The house in which General Mladić had been hiding was owned by one of his cousins. After the general's arrest, his son claimed that his father needs medical treatment and is too ill to be sent to the ICTY. Yet the Serbian authorities did not agree and General Mladić was put on a plane and flown to The Hague on 31st May.

Today, there are many people in Serbia who believe the three men did nothing wrong and that their actions in the wars should be admired. On 30th May several thousand people gathered in Belgrade to protest about General Mladić's arrest.

Many people in other countries suspect that some members of the Serbian government protected both Mr Karadžić and General Mladić. These people believe that those who helped them knew where the two men were hiding but kept it a secret. However, Serbia's president, Boris Tadić, insists neither Mr Karadžić nor General Mladić were given help.

President Tadić has said that he wants Serbia to join the European Union (EU). Yet EU member countries, such as France and Germany, have said they would not consider Serbia's application until both Mr Karadžić and General Mladić had been arrested and sent to the ICTY. Now that the two men are in The Hague many believe Serbia will be accepted as a new EU member. Some people therefore believe that the arrest of General Mladić and Serbia's EU application are connected. ■

TOP 10 NEW SPECIES

Each year a science organisation called the International Institute for Species Exploration (IISE) announces a list of the top ten new species discovered in the world the previous year.

This year, the top ten included a type of cricket that pollinates orchid flowers; a small fish-like creature that hops along the ocean floor, called a pancake batfish; a large monitor lizard; and the 'tyrant king' of leeches.



Pancake batfish

When a species is 'discovered' it means scientists called taxonomists have spent time studying and describing it. They decide which other species it is related to, and note its physical characteristics. They also study how it behaves – for example, what it eats – and the habitat in which it is found.

Some taxonomists estimate at least ten million species in the world

have not yet been ‘discovered’, or classified. New ones are being found all the time. Many, such as different bacteria, can only be seen with a microscope. This is why it was a surprise that one of the new species on the list is a large monitor lizard called *Varanus bitatawa*. It lives in the Philippines and can grow to two metres (6.6 feet) in length. Although local people knew of the lizard, it had never been classified before.



Pollinating cricket

Some of the top ten species have some interesting behaviours. One is a bacterium that has been given the name *Halomonas titanicae*. It was discovered on the wreck of HMS Titanic, the large passenger ship that sank in the North Atlantic Ocean in 1912 on its very first voyage. The bacterium can eat and digest iron oxide – better known as rust. Scientists think the newly discovered bacterium could be useful. For instance, it might be possible to use it to get rid of old rusted iron including oil-rigs that have sunk to the bottom of the ocean.

Other species on this year’s list are the first type of mushroom discovered to live underwater; a cockroach that jumps like grasshoppers do; and a spider that spins the largest-known webs with silk that is the strongest natural material ever discovered.

A [committee](#) of several top scientists from around the world decided upon the top ten. They

included plant experts and zoologists from universities and museums in the UK, New Zealand, the USA, Denmark, France, Spain, and South Africa.

Anyone may nominate species to be considered for the 2012 list. The IISE has a form on its website you can fill in with the details of the species. It must have been discovered in 2011. The IISE says the species that have the best chance of getting onto their list are things that set records – such as the largest or smallest of a type of plant or animal – and those that have surprising or unusual behaviours. ▣

PROTESTERS IN SPAIN

Local elections were held in Spain on 22nd May. A few days before they took place, tens of thousands of people began to gather in the centres of the country’s largest cities. Most were young people protesting about unemployment.

Over the last few years Spain has had many economic problems. The country is not making as much money as it used to, so the government now has to spend less. In the past Spain has borrowed money, and now must find ways of paying some of it back.

José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, Spain’s prime minister, has had to make some difficult decisions. These included raising the age at which people may retire from 65 to 67. Some companies have had to close down, many have reduced the number of people they employ, and very few are taking on new workers. This is why it is hard for young people to find jobs.

A country’s unemployment rate is a figure that says what percentage

NewsCAST

Boom! — If you’re shopping for fruit and vegetables in China, you might want to take cover. The government is investigating a strange case of exploding watermelons. Farmers who added a chemical to make their watermelons grow larger were shocked and surprised when they began exploding in the fields. Experts say it is legal to use the growth chemical on fruit in countries such as China and the USA. However, they think the reason the melons were exploding was because the chemical had been added at the wrong time.

All the watermelons that contain the growth chemical will now be used as animal food and not sold to people.



of the people who are able to work cannot find a job. In Spain it is about 21%, the highest in Europe. For young people, the figure is much higher. Around 40% of them cannot find a job. This means many young people live at home with their parents as they cannot afford to live on their own.

The biggest protest is being held in the Puerta del Sol (the Gate of the Sun), a square in the centre of Madrid, the capital city. Thousands of people have set up a large camp there. Many say they will refuse to leave until there is a change in how the country is run. They call themselves ‘the [indignant](#)’.

Spain is what’s called a two party state. This means there are two main political parties, the Spanish Socialist Workers’ Party (PSOE) and the People’s Party (PP). Many young people protesting in the main cities

say they support neither party. They say the way the whole government works seems to be 'broken' and something has to change.

In the local elections Prime Minister Zapatero's PSOE party did very badly. The People's Party now has control of many regions. However, the results show that many people who used to support the PSOE decided not to vote at all. A general election must be held by March next year. Mr Zapatero has already said he will step down as his party's leader before then.



Protesters in the Puerta del Sol, Madrid

On 29th May about 20,000 young people held a demonstration in the centre of Athens, the capital of Greece. Another 1,000 protested in Paris, the capital of France. Both groups said they had gathered to show their support for the protesters in the Puerta del Sol. ■

ANOTHER WAR IN SUDAN?

On 9th July, South Sudan will become the world's newest country. Yet as the date gets closer many people worry that another war is about to break out between the northern part of Sudan and the South.

Sudan was a British colony until 1956. Soon after the country became independent, fighting broke out between the north and south. In the northern part of

Sudan the majority of people speak Arabic and are Muslims. In the south most are black Africans, who follow Christianity or traditional African religions.

A peace treaty was signed in 2005, which brought the war to an end. An estimated two million people were killed during the fighting and twice as many were forced to leave their homes. As part of the treaty it was agreed that the people living in the south would be allowed to decide if they wanted to be a separate country.

A referendum, or vote in which all adults may take part, was held at the beginning of this year. Nearly 99% of those who voted wanted South Sudan to become an independent country. The official date set for South Sudan's independence is 9th July.

However, some important things were not decided by the referendum. One is the region of Abyei. It has not yet been finally decided whether this will become part of the northern part of the country, or of South Sudan. This is important because there is a lot of oil in the Abyei region.

Sudan makes a lot of money from oil. Around 70% of the oil comes from oilfields that are in South Sudan. Yet the pipelines that transport oil from the oilfields to the Red Sea, where it is loaded onto ships, go through the northern part of the country. So far, South Sudan and the north have not agreed how they will share the money made from oil.

Trouble broke out in the Abyei region on 19th May. The north claimed that soldiers from South Sudan attacked its soldiers. Soldiers from the north fired on those from South Sudan. The fighting forced many people out of their homes. On

29th May the north declared it had appointed a senior army commander to take charge of Abyei.

Omar al-Bashir, the president of Sudan, and Salva Kiir, South Sudan's leader, have agreed talks should take place to solve the border problems. But some people suspect that the north is planning to use its army to take over regions along the border.



Since the war ended in 2005 around 10,000 peacekeeping soldiers from the United Nations (UN) have been based along parts of the border. But there are not enough peacekeepers to cover the whole area. And President al-Bashir has said all UN peacekeepers must leave the country by 9th July.

The UN says the peacekeepers should stay. But President al-Bashir insists he asked the UN for help in 2005, but when South Sudan becomes an independent country, their job will be over and they should leave.

Many now worry another war will break out on 9th July instead of it being a day of independence celebrations in South Sudan. ■

VACCINES AND ERADICATING DISEASE

by Anna Grayson

A well-known international science journal called *Nature* has recently published several articles about how disease can be reduced, or prevented, by vaccines.

One example is polio. This is a horrible disease that can spread from person to person. The disease attacks the nerves and can **paralyse** a person's muscles. In 1988, 350,000 people around the world caught polio. However, by 2001 this had dropped to 500. This, doctors say, is because so many more people are now given the polio vaccine.

If enough people are given a vaccine for a disease, it is much harder for the disease to spread among those who have not been given it. Scientists call this 'herd immunity'. Yet in parts of the world where few people are vaccinated, the disease can spread easily.

Some vaccines are injected into the body while others can be swallowed. Polio vaccines can be given in both ways. Most of us are given the polio vaccine when we are children.

Vaccines work by using your body's own defence, or immune, system. In your blood you have different kinds of cells. One type, called white blood cells, fights infections caused by germs getting into your body. Germs are very small and may be viruses or bacteria.

If a virus or bacterium infects you, your white blood cells will make tiny antibodies. These are shaped so they can attach themselves to the outside shape of the virus or bacterium. (To imagine something similar, think of fitting smaller pieces of Lego to a bigger Lego brick.) The attached antibodies can recognise the germs and, when they do, the viruses and bacteria are eaten up by the white blood cells.

Once your white blood cells have made the right antibody to fight a certain type of virus or bacterium, they don't forget it. For example, you are unlikely to get chickenpox again if you had it when you were young. This is because your white blood cells remember what antibodies are needed to destroy the virus. So if, even years later, you

were to come into contact with the chickenpox virus again, your white blood cells would quickly make more of the right type of antibody. The other white blood cells would then gobble up the chickenpox virus before it could make you ill.

A vaccine is a very tiny amount of a virus or a bacterium, which is deliberately injected into the body, or swallowed. When this happens it triggers or 'fools' the white blood cells to make the right-shaped antibodies.

Your white blood cells will therefore remember what they did when you were given the vaccine, if you come into contact with the disease in the future. They immediately jump into action, make large quantities of the right antibody (which stick to the germs), and stop you from getting ill.

The first vaccines were made for smallpox around 200 years ago. Smallpox is a bit like chickenpox, but is a much more serious illness. These first vaccines worked by putting a small amount of cowpox virus into a scratch on the skin. Cowpox virus was used as it is similar to smallpox but less dangerous. This meant there was less risk of the person receiving the vaccine becoming ill.

For many years now, dead or inactive forms of the virus or bacterium have been used, so there is little chance of getting the disease from the vaccine. Today, as so many people around the world have been vaccinated against smallpox, the disease no longer exists.

Scientists are busy researching ways of making vaccines for other diseases too. One big problem scientists have is that viruses and bacteria can evolve and change into new strains. This is called mutation. The flu virus mutates very quickly so new vaccines have to be made each year. But for any of these vaccines to work, enough people have to have the vaccination.

The articles in *Nature* explain that it should be possible to **eradicate** many other diseases that have a vaccine, such as polio, if they were to be given to everyone.



Vaccine being given to a child

WORLD'S BIGGEST SHIP

An international oil company has announced plans to build the world's largest floating platform, or ship. The floating platform will be able to extract natural gas from a gas field under the seabed. The gas will be turned into liquid so it can be transported to other countries by smaller ships.



Artist's impression of the Prelude project

The ship is to be built in South Korea by the Royal Dutch Shell Company. It will be nearly 500 metres (1,640 feet) long and as high as a 60-storey building. The shipbuilding work, called the Prelude project, is expected to cost around £7.7 billion (US\$12.6 billion).

NEWSCAST

FIRST DRIVING BAN — A driver in Venezuela has set a national 'first': he is the first person in the country to have his driving licence taken away. Although the country has had a law since 2008 that says a person's licence can be taken away for speeding, nobody has ever been punished before. The driver was stopped for driving too fast, and his bus was too full. What's more there was a wheel missing, which the driver had put inside the bus. He said he was taking it to be repaired. The man has been banned from driving for a year, and he and his company were both fined.

The Company says the ship will be moored, or 'parked', around 200 kilometres (124 miles) off the coast of Australia. The floating platform is expected to stay in the same place for about 25 years. Royal Dutch Shell hopes to have completed the platform and started bringing up gas from under the seabed by 2016.

Natural gas is a fossil fuel. Many countries burn it in power stations to make electricity. However, it is not as easy to transport because it takes up more space than oil. Currently most gas is transported from the place where it's found to where it's needed through very long pipelines.

Some oil and gas companies operating in the far eastern parts of Russia have begun to liquefy the gas they bring up from underground. Chilling it to very low temperatures turns the gas into a liquid. When liquid it's called LNG (Liquefied Natural Gas) and can be transported in large specially designed ships. LNG can therefore be transported around the world in a similar way to oil.

The Royal Dutch Shell Company says transferring the gas from the undersea gas field through pipelines would be too difficult and expensive. This is why the Prelude will have the equipment both to extract the gas from under the seabed and to turn it into LNG. Ships will come alongside, collect the LNG, and take it to other countries.

Experts say the Prelude project is one example of how large international companies are now planning to get oil and gas from places that were thought to be inaccessible in the past.

The price of oil and gas continues to go up. This is mainly because countries such as China are using more and more of it every year in

its factories and to generate electricity. Much of the LNG produced by the Prelude project will probably be sold to China.

The Company claims its project is more environmentally friendly than having pipelines. Also, it says, burning natural gas creates less carbon dioxide than burning oil. Not everyone agrees. Some people worry that turning the gas to LNG on the floating platform will create even more greenhouse gas emissions. ■

GLOBAL PEACE INDEX

An organisation called the Institute for Economics and Peace has just published a report called the Global Peace Index (GPI). The GPI report is now produced annually. The first one was put together five years ago.



The GPI puts 153 countries in order of how peaceful they are. The Institute says this is important because a country's 'peacefulness' affects its business and economic success.

The Institute says international businesses are more likely to spend money setting up factories and offices in countries that are peaceful. This is important because it creates better paid jobs for the people in that country. Also, people are more likely to want to visit peaceful countries. The Institute therefore believes the further down a country is on the GPI, the less attractive it is for businesses and tourists.

The GPI ranks what it calls the ‘drivers’ and ‘indicators’ of peace in each country. Drivers are the things that cause or lead to peace, and indicators are things that show that a country is peaceful.

There are 23 peace indicators. These include the number of violent crimes in a country, how it gets on with neighbouring countries, and how much its government respects human rights. Countries are given a rank from one to five for each indicator. A lower number shows a country that is more at peace, and a higher number shows one that is less so.

This year Iceland came top of the list and is the most peaceful country. New Zealand and Japan are in second and third place. The least peaceful of the 153 countries, or the bottom two on the list, are Iraq and Somalia. The two countries that improved the most compared with last year were Mongolia and Thailand. They went up 36 and 19 places.

PEACE INDEX

Top 10

1. Iceland
2. New Zealand
3. Japan
4. Denmark
5. Czech Republic
6. Austria
7. Finland
8. Canada
9. Norway
10. Slovenia

Bottom 10

144. Central African Republic
145. Israel
146. Pakistan
147. Russia
148. Democratic Republic of Congo
149. North Korea
150. Afghanistan
151. Sudan
152. Iraq
153. Somalia

Overall the GPI claims the world has become less peaceful for the third year running. It says one reason for this is that the chance of terrorist attacks has increased in 23 countries.

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What has happened in several Arab countries since the beginning of this year has also had an effect on the GPI. In two of these countries, Tunisia and Egypt, presidents have had to step down after large street demonstrations. A civil war has broken out in Libya and the authorities have ordered members of the police and army to fire at protesters in Bahrain, Yemen and Syria. Libya has dropped 83 places on the GPI list since last year, and Bahrain 47. ■

TYRANNOSAURIDS AND HUNTING

Professor Philip Currie, an American palaeontologist, has released a new study about tyrannosaurids. In it, he says tyrannosaurids were much more intelligent than previously thought. Tyrannosaurids is the name given to the family of dinosaurs that includes *Tyrannosaurus rex*.

In the past nearly all tyrannosaurid fossils have been found on their own, or in isolation. So most scientists believe dinosaurs such as *T. rex* lived and hunted on their own.

However, Professor Currie has discovered several tyrannosaurid fossils that were buried very close to one other. This, he believes, suggests the large reptiles lived in groups and hunted as a pack, in a similar way to lions and wolves today. This behaviour, scientists say, can show a higher level of intelligence than that of animals that hunt alone, because a pack must know how to work together.

During an expedition to the Gobi Desert in Mongolia, which lasted for five years, Professor Currie discovered several *Tarbosaurus bataar* fossils. These dinosaurs were around three metres (ten feet) tall and 12 metres (40 feet) long. This species has been described as *T. rex*'s Asian 'cousin'. They lived around 70 million years ago, towards the end of the Cretaceous period.

Professor Currie found a group of six *T. bataar* fossils close together. The group included both young and adult dinosaurs. Professor Currie believes they must have suddenly all died at the same time and their bones were preserved in the same piece of rock.

Professor Currie thinks the younger ones had their own job to do in the pack. They were smaller and perhaps faster, and had sharper more narrow teeth than the older dinosaurs. The Professor believes the smaller ones would run into a herd of dinosaurs they were hunting to frighten them. As the herd split up, one or two would then be chased towards the adult *T. bataars*. The adults were probably slower, but had more powerful jaws, which could be used to kill the prey.



A picture of what *Tarbosaurus bataar* might have looked like

The skull size of *T. bataar* was larger than that of other dinosaurs that lived around the same time. This means they had room for bigger brains. Professor Currie says this could be another reason for them being more intelligent.

However, not all palaeontologists agree with Professor Currie's claims. They say large floods at the time could have killed the dinosaurs in different places and then washed their bodies to the same place. If this is what happened, the fossils being found together does not necessarily mean the dinosaurs lived in groups. ■

BRONZE AGE BATTLE

Since 1997 several ancient human and horse bones, together with a few wooden weapons, have been discovered buried close to the River

Tollense in northern Germany. Now archaeologists have searched the area and believe the bones show that a Bronze Age battle took place nearby over 3,000 years ago.

When the first few bones were found, it was thought they came from old graves, or that a few people could have been killed there a long time ago. Recently, though, a team of archaeologists decided to properly search and excavate the area. This investigation, which covered two square kilometres (0.8 square miles), even included some divers digging in the riverbed.

The team was surprised to discover the remains of around 100 people and several horses. Nearly all of the remains were of young men. Many of the bones discovered showed signs that the people had died violently. There were skulls with holes in them, broken bones, and one set of remains contained a flint arrowhead. Several weapons made of sharpened wood and stones were also found.



River Tollense, northern Germany

Normally, people who died in northern Europe during the Bronze Age were placed in graves. These usually also contained pots made out of clay and simple ornaments. Yet none of these things has been found with the bones. The archaeologists are therefore sure these people were not buried in the traditional way.

At first the archaeologists were puzzled because some of the

remains were found under the riverbed. The course of the river, which is quite narrow, is not thought to have changed much during the last 3,000 years. Now they think that the battle must have taken place further up the river valley. After the battle, the archaeologists say, many of those killed must have been dumped in the water. The bodies were then carried downriver by the current, and eventually covered over by sand and silt washed down by the river.

From what they have discovered so far the archaeologists think at least 200 people must have died in the battle. In the Bronze Age the population of this part of northern Germany was very small. So a battle that caused 200 deaths must have been large for that area.

Millet, a type of cereal crop, was found among some of the human remains. However, it is known that at that time millet was not grown or eaten in northern Germany. Historians say it therefore seems likely the battle was between local people and an invading force from somewhere far away.

The archaeologists now plan to carry out several more excavations. They also hope to be able to discover exactly where the battle took place. ■

VOLCANO THREATENS AIR TRAVEL

On 21st May the Grímsvötn volcano in Iceland began erupting. Grímsvötn is a subglacial volcano, which means it is under a thick layer of ice. The volcano is Iceland's most active. It last erupted in 2004.

Iceland has a lot of volcanic activity, which is why it is sometimes called the 'land of ice and fire'. The

NewsCAST

WORLD'S YOUNGEST ARTIST — An art gallery in New York City, in the USA, is about to open an exhibition of work by an Australian artist. The artist, Aelita Andre, who is only four years old, is believed to be the world's youngest professional artist. Both of Aelita's parents are also artists. Her mother showed some of Aelita's work to a gallery owner when she was just 20 months old. The owner then agreed to exhibit the work. Now Aelita's art has been exhibited in Russia and China and mentioned in international newspapers and on television. So far Aelita has produced around 250 paintings.

island country is on a mid-ocean ridge. Iceland is one of the few places in the world where this type of ridge rises above the sea's surface. This ridge marks the place where two of the Earth's tectonic plates are moving apart.



Picture, taken from a plane, of the Grímsvötn eruption, in Iceland

Huge amounts of volcanic ash were thrown high into the sky by the eruption. A thick layer of ash covered surrounding farmland and fields. Close to the volcano, the ash in the air was so thick that it blocked out the Sun. By the following day it began to fall on Reykjavik, the capital city, about 400 kilometres (248 miles) away. Officials closed

Iceland's airports. This is because volcanic ash in the air can get into aircraft engines and make it dangerous to fly.

Soon after the eruption started many people in Europe began to wonder if it would cause similar problems to those that happened last April. Then, a different subglacial volcano in Iceland, called Eyjafjallajökull (pronounced aya-vel-lo-kulth) erupted. The ash cloud (also called a plume) from this volcano was blown towards Europe by strong winds. Officials in Western Europe then decided it was too dangerous for planes to fly through it.

The airspace of over 30 different countries was closed and tens of thousands of flights had to be cancelled. The travel plans of about ten million people were affected. Hundreds of thousands became stranded at airports all around the world, as planes were no longer allowed to fly to or from Western Europe. The disruption, which lasted for six days, meant the airline companies lost large amounts of money.

This time volcanologists – scientists who study volcanoes – predicted there would be far fewer problems. This, they say, is because the ash thrown into the air by the two volcanoes was different. The ash from Eyjafjallajökull was more fine-grained, or smaller and lighter, than that from Grímsvötn. Last year's ash therefore stayed in the air for a long time and was blown over a much wider area. The larger and heavier pieces, or particles, of ash from Grímsvötn fell to the ground much sooner.

However, some ash from Grímsvötn's plume did reach the north of the UK and northern Germany. In these places some flights had to

be cancelled on 24th and 25th May, but the disruption lasted less than one day. Many transatlantic flights between Europe and North America also had to change their routes to avoid the airspace over Iceland. ■

E. COLI OUTBREAK IN GERMANY

Several countries in Europe have recently banned the sale of cucumbers and other vegetables that have been grown in Spain. This is because they were thought to be the cause of a serious E. coli food poisoning outbreak.

E. coli is a bacterium. If it gets into food it can cause serious illness. Some types, or strains, can lead to Haemolytic-uremic [Syndrome](#) (HUS). This can damage a person's kidneys and is fatal in some cases.

So far Germany is the most badly affected country. Over 1,500 people have become very ill, and 18 have died. People have fallen ill in other countries too, such as the UK, Poland, Denmark and Austria. Most of these people have recently spent some time in northern Germany.



Raw vegetables

Health officials in Germany are trying to discover the cause of the E. coli outbreak. To do this they have to find out what the people who are ill had eaten, and where the food came from. At first the officials thought they had tracked the outbreak to [organic](#) cucumbers grown in Spain.

These were sold in a market in Hamburg, a city in northern Germany. Some of the cucumbers have also been exported to other countries.

On 30th May Russia announced it was banning all vegetables from both Spain and Germany. Other countries, such as the Czech Republic, Austria, and Luxembourg said they have removed Spanish-grown cucumbers from the shops.

Officials in Spain tested the vegetables from the greenhouses in which the cucumbers were grown. So far no-one in Spain has become sick from eating cucumbers. The tests showed that the cucumbers were not infected with the E. coli that is causing people to become ill in other countries.

Outbreaks like this cause many problems other than for people's health. They are often known as 'food scares', because people become worried about eating certain things and therefore stop buying them.

Officials have advised that people in northern Germany should not eat raw salad vegetables unless

they have been thoroughly washed. Yet many people in the whole of the country have stopped buying salad vegetables, such as lettuce and tomatoes.

German farmers are losing a lot of money and have had to throw away most of their crops. And many other countries are now refusing to buy vegetables grown in Spain. This is a big problem for farmers. A senior politician in Spain has demanded that Germany pay compensation to the Spanish farmers now that it has been proved the Spanish cucumbers were not the cause of the outbreak.

What's more, the farmers do not know how long the E. coli outbreak will last. Some health experts say it will be necessary to find out where the E. coli came from before it can be stopped.

Doctors in Germany are puzzled by the outbreak. Normally, they say, HUS affects children under the age of five. Yet around 90% of the people who have fallen ill in Germany are adults, of which most are women. ■

apply for a driving licence. And without a driving licence, it is illegal to drive.

In Saudi Arabia women are not allowed to do certain things. For instance, a woman must have a male guardian with her when she goes out – either a member of her family, or her husband. She needs his permission to get a job or open a bank account. Women may not mix with males who are not members of their families. This means they cannot use public transport. If a male family member or guardian is not available to drive them where they want to go a driver is hired or they must travel by taxi.



Image from Ms al-Sharif's video of her driving

Manal al-Sharif, the woman arrested for driving, is an IT expert who works for a Saudi Arabian company. She was kept in jail for nine days before being released. In the video she is shown talking about some of the problems women have because they may not drive.

Ms al-Sharif learnt to drive when she lived in the USA, and has an international driving licence. It is not unusual for women from Saudi Arabia to learn to drive if they go to live in other countries. Many have international driving licences, but may not drive when they return home.

It's thought that many people in Saudi Arabia, including some of its leaders, are not against women

NEWSCAST

WILDLIFE MISTAKE — Police in the UK set off to capture a wild animal after a worried person reported a big cat in a field. After checking CCTV images the police thought it might be an escaped white tiger. A helicopter was sent to track the animal with a special thermal, or heat, camera. Animal experts sneaked up to the field to capture the tiger. The police in the helicopter were surprised when the animal did not show up on the thermal camera. Then the wind from the helicopter blades knocked the tiger over. It was then discovered that it was not a wild animal but a life-sized stuffed toy.

JAILED DRIVER FREED

On 31st May, a woman in Saudi Arabia was released from jail after agreeing to drop her campaign to change one of the country's laws. In Saudi Arabia women are not allowed to drive. Yet the woman arranged for a video to be taken of her driving a car, which was then posted on the internet. Shortly afterwards the police came to her house and arrested her.

Saudi Arabia is one of the only countries in the world where women are not allowed to drive. The rule is actually that women may not

driving. Many think the driving rule, and some of the other rules that restrict what women may do, are meant to **appease** people who do not wish to change old traditions.

Most people think the real reason Ms al-Sharif was arrested was because of what she said in her video. She suggested that all women who have international driving licences in Saudi Arabia drive their cars for anything they need to do on 17th June. If this happens, it will be difficult for the police to stop all of them at the same time.

However, the future of Ms al-Sharif's campaign is uncertain. She wrote a statement saying she will not drive and will not encourage women to try to persuade officials to change the rules. Although officials insist this is not true, most of her supporters think she was made to write and sign this before she was allowed to be released. ■

NATIONAL EXAM IN CHINA

Millions of students around the world are currently facing exam season – and the stress of revising and wanting to do well enough for a place at their chosen college or university. This includes China, where more than nine million students are preparing for the national college entrance exam.

China's national exam is also known as the 'gaokao'. Students take it in the final year of high school. To get a place in almost any university or higher education college they have to pass the exam.

Most people think getting a high mark is very important. Students say some teachers and parents put a lot of pressure on them to do well. It's not unusual for students to start

preparing for the gaokao several years before they take the exam.

Each year there are accusations of cheating. Those who disagree with the exam system say cheating is likely to happen because there is so much pressure for students to do well. In the past people have been willing to pay a lot of money for copies of exam papers in advance. Some have taken earphones into the exam to get outside help.

The students are competing for fewer than six million university and college places. Universities restrict the number of students from different regions that they can award places to. This is one way to make sure that a wide range of people from all over the country are able to attend university.



Chinese students taking an exam

The universities set a number of points students must get to be given a place. If the university is considered especially good, or world-renowned, the number of points may be set very high. Less popular universities will accept students who have lower points. In some regions, students may see their exam results and then choose a university. In others, they must say which university they want to go to before they take the exam, and hope they get the score they need.

The gaokao is so important that extra police are stationed on the roads to redirect traffic away from the exam centres. If there is noisy

NewsCAST

GIANT DANCE — On 20th May, thousands of high-school students from southern European countries gathered to try to break a world record: the largest-ever dance. The event first began as a high-school graduation celebration in Slovenia several years ago. Since then other countries have joined in. This year the students decided to try to beat the record that over 27,000 dancers set in 2008. The hopeful record-breakers, in Slovenia, Albania, Romania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Macedonia, Montenegro, and Serbia learnt a 19th century European dance called the quadrille.

building work going on nearby it has to stop for two or three days until the exams are over.

All students must take exams in Chinese, mathematics and one foreign language. For the rest, students choose whether they want to specialise in sciences or humanities, and take subjects related to those **disciplines**.

There are big celebrations for the highest marks. Last year one student, Li Tai-bo, got the highest possible mark in the science exam. His school used a picture of him to make a huge poster. This was used in the school to announce that he was its best student. ■

REINDEERVISION

Scientists say reindeer have evolved an unusual way to survive in their snowy natural habitat, the Arctic. Their eyes are able to see ultra-violet light (UV). Scientists think this helps them to know where food and

predators are – and stops them from getting lost.

All our natural light is produced by electromagnetic waves from the Sun. Human eyes can see only a narrow range of these wave frequencies. The wave frequencies in the visible light range, or spectrum, make our eyes respond in a way that means we can see colours. The longest visible wave frequencies make our eyes see the red range of colours. Our eyes respond to the shortest by seeing violet.

The Sun does not only produce visible waves though. Wave frequencies that are shorter than those that produce violet to our eyes are known as ultra-violet, or UV. Human eyes can't see UV light. One of the main reasons we know about UV is that it is the type of light that can cause sunburn.

The scientists did an experiment with UV light on reindeer that had

been put to sleep by giving them an anaesthetic. They then exposed the reindeers' eyes to UV light. The scientists found that the reindeer eyes' receptors – the parts that receive light for the brain to process it – reacted to UV light, in a way that humans' eyes don't.

The scientists think being able to see UV light helps the reindeer to find the food they eat. The animals' main food source is lichen, a fungus-like organism that absorbs UV waves. This means lichen appears black to reindeer eyes – much easier to pick out against the white snow. The scientists say the fur of predators such as wolves also absorbs UV light.

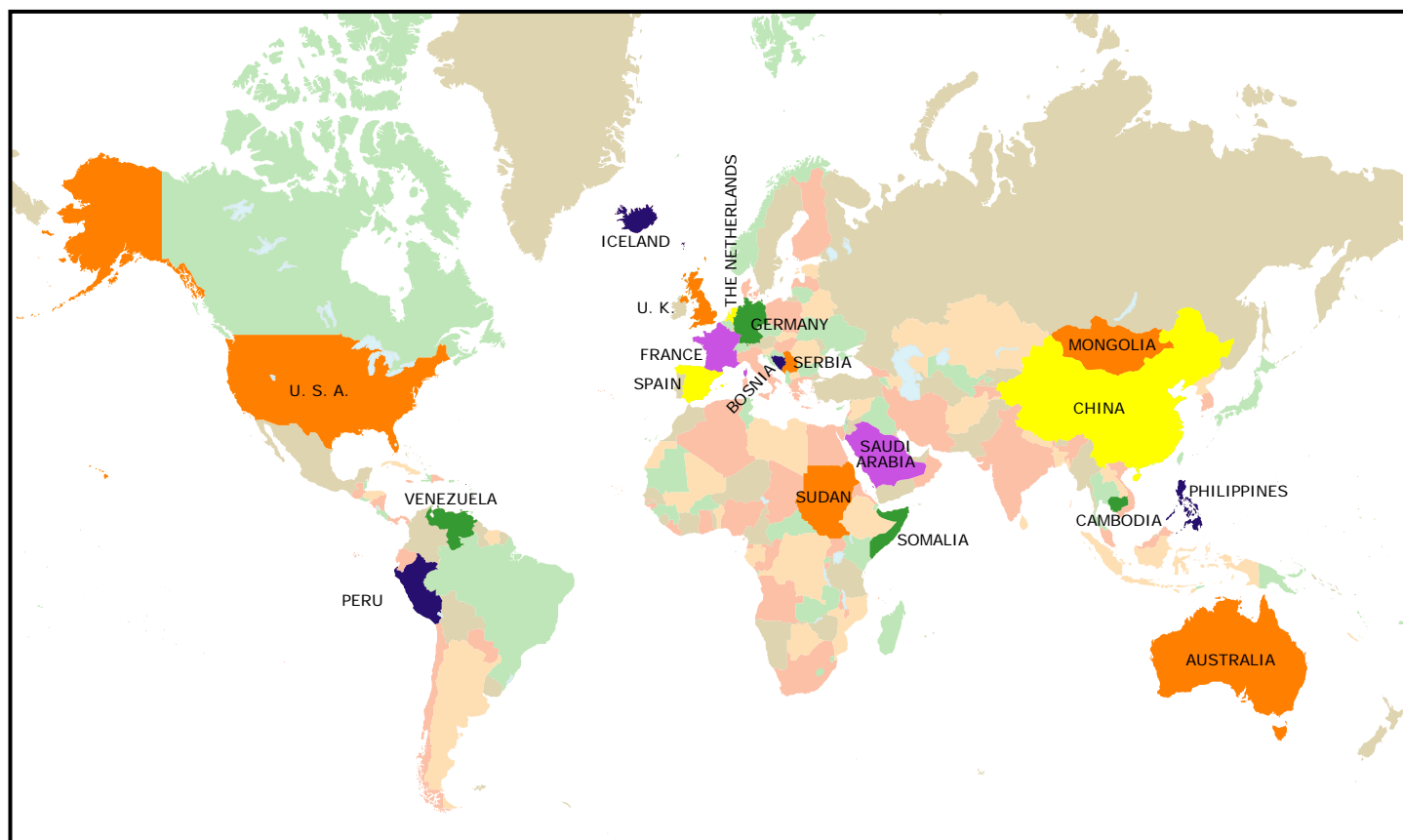
What also interests the scientists is that even though reindeers' eyes let in UV light, it doesn't seem to damage them. Humans' eyes that are exposed to too much UV

light often get 'snow-blindness'. This is painful and is like the eyes getting sunburnt.



Reindeer

The scientists think reindeer eyes perhaps only let in the harmless type of UV waves and not the type that cause burning. Another possibility is that their eyes have a way of protecting themselves from harmful UV. The scientists say they hope to find out more because it might help them to develop ways of protecting human skin and eyes from harmful UV light. ■



This map shows countries to which news stories refer in this issue. Visit www.newsademic.com for more detailed world maps.

MAKING ELECTRICITY BEAUTIFUL

On 23rd May an unusual competition was announced in the UK. The prize will be awarded to the person who creates the best design for a new electricity pylon.

The competition has been organised by an electricity company, an architecture organisation, and a part of the UK government that deals with energy.

Similarly to many other countries, electricity in the UK is transported to all the homes and workplaces that need it via a huge network. Much of this electricity is made from burning fossil fuels – oil, gas and coal – in large power stations. The network is made up of large cables that lead out of the power stations. These cables are supported by huge metal structures called transmission towers, or pylons.

There are around 88,000 electricity pylons in the UK. For strength they are built to a steel **lattice** design, which dates back to the 1920s. Many people think pylons are ugly and that they can ruin the landscape when long lines of them are built across the countryside.

One of the main reasons for the design competition is that over the next few years the UK will have to build many more pylons. There are several reasons for this. One is that many of the older power stations and pylons need to be replaced. Another is that the country has agreed to reduce the amount of fossil fuels it burns by 80% within the next 40 years. To do this it must find other ways to provide the electricity people need, such as wind and wave power.

Many of the places where wind and wave power can be generated are far away from the towns and

cities that need most of it. Wind turbines are often on high hills or out at sea where it is windiest. Wave power has to be made near the coast. This means that more pylons will be needed to transmit the electricity from these remote renewable energy plants to the places where it's needed.



Electricity pylons

The organisers of the competition admit the current pylon design works very well. Yet they say nowadays there are new materials and technologies that could be used to make something better. They hope that a new pylon design will be able to do its job and also fit in with the surrounding environment.

Those who want to enter the competition must do so by 12th July. The winning entries will be announced in October. ■

FOREST PROTESTS

On 25th May, a group of protesters in Cambodia travelled to Phnom Penh, the country's capital. The protesters handed a petition to government officials. Thirty thousand people who want to persuade the government to protect one of Cambodia's large areas of forest had signed the petition.

The forest is in the south of the country and covers around 3,600 square kilometres (1,390 square miles). It has several ecosystems. These include both evergreen and

deciduous trees as well as some areas of swamp. Hundreds of different species live in the forest. At least 50 are endangered. These include the sun bear, the smallest member of the bear family.

The protest and petition was organised by a group that represents the Kuy people. There are around 200,000 Kuy people living in over 300 communities that surround the forest.

People from other parts of the country and the city of Phnom Penh also took part in the protest. The Kuy people claim the forest is being threatened by both legal and illegal businesses. These include companies that cut down trees for building, and that mine minerals.



Forest area in Cambodia

The people who signed the petition say they want the government to agree to three things. One is to stop giving permits allowing companies to work in the forest and to cancel those that it has already given. Another is that the whole forest should be protected and conserved as part of Cambodia's heritage. They also want the government to manage the forest alongside the Kuy people in the future.

The government claims it has been trying to help the Kuy people. One example is that it has given a permit to a Vietnamese rubber-making company. This company agreed to pay a lot of money to be allowed to plant rubber trees in one part of

the forest. The permit means that the company may clear more of the forest to plant more rubber trees. The Cambodian government says this will create jobs for the Kuy people and bring money into the country.

However, the Kuy people insist the amount of money the Vietnamese company is prepared to pay them is not enough to look after their families. They say they would prefer to plant and grow their own food and crops within the forest. Many are angry about what has happened. They claim the forest is important for their social lives and traditional customs and that they are not interested in ruining it just to be given a job. ▣

ANCIENT HEART DISEASE

Princess Ahmose Meryet-Amon has been diagnosed with coronary atherosclerosis. This is when a substance called plaque builds up on the inside of a person's arteries. It is also a sign that someone suffers from heart disease.

However, what's unusual about the princess's medical problems is that she is an Ancient Egyptian mummy. As she died around 3,500 years ago, hers is the oldest known case of heart disease.

Today doctors know a lot about the things that can increase the risk of heart diseases, and how to prevent them. One of the dangers is eating a lot of food that is high in saturated fats.

Not all food that contains fat is bad for us. Our bodies – especially when we are younger – need fat to grow properly. This is why doctors recommend children drink full-cream milk. There are also different types of fats. Some, such as those found in fish oils, are good for our

bodies. Others – known as saturated fats – can be harmful, if we eat too much of them.



Princess Ahmose Meryet-Amon's mummy

Doctors warn that most 'fast foods' are high in saturated fats. Eating a lot of these types of foods is one of the things that might lead to heart disease when someone is older. It's also a reason why many people think of heart disease as a modern problem. Having heart disease is also believed to be more likely if someone eats a 'western' diet. This describes the types of food often eaten in countries such as the USA and the UK.

Yet the mummy of the Ancient Egyptian princess shows that people did have heart disease thousands of years ago. This was before food high in saturated fats and the modern western diet had been invented. Medical experts therefore say that there must be other things that cause or lead to heart disease.

As well as the princess, 51 other mummies were scanned as part of the project. In 44 the arteries could be identified. Of these, it seems 20 had a build-up of plaque in the arteries. Those who had the build-up were all over 40 years old when they died.

Historians say the princess would have had a different diet from that of ordinary Egyptians because she was wealthier. One reason for the build-up

in her arteries may have been eating too much salt, as this was used to preserve food in Ancient Egypt.

Health experts say it is a good idea to try to keep the amount of saturated fat in our diet low. The medical study of the Egyptian mummies may mean that this is especially so, since it seems humans have been prone to getting heart disease for thousands of years. ▣

G8 MEETS IN FRANCE

The leaders of the G8 countries gathered for their annual meeting on 26th and 27th May, in Deauville, a small town in northern France. The French president, Nicolas Sarkozy, was the host of the meeting.



Nicolas Sarkozy, president of France, at the G8

'G8' is short for 'Group of Eight'. The original members were the six countries that had the world's largest economies in 1975 and elected their leaders democratically. The members of the Group of Six were the USA, Japan, Germany, France, the UK and Italy. Canada joined in 1976 and the name changed to the G7.

The G7 became the G8 when Russia joined in 1998. Russia held its first democratic election in 1991 after the communist Russian-led Soviet Union collapsed. Although Russia's economy at the time was small, the G7 countries agreed to invite it to become a member as it

changed from a communist system of government to a democratic one.

More recently, José Manuel Barroso, the president of the European Commission, which runs the day-to-day management of the European Union (EU), and Herman Van Rompuy, the president of the European Council, have attended G8 meetings too.

G20 MEMBERS

Argentina	Mexico
Australia	<i>Russia</i>
Brazil	Saudi Arabia
<i>Canada</i>	South Africa
China	South Korea
<i>France</i>	Turkey
<i>Germany</i>	<i>UK</i>
India	<i>USA</i>
Indonesia	European Union (EU)
<i>Italy</i>	
<i>Japan</i>	

■ G8 member countries

The G8 has been criticised for being out of date. Brazil is not a member, although its economy is bigger than those of Italy, Canada and Russia and it has a democratic system of government. Nor is China, which has the world's second-largest economy after the USA. China, though, does not elect its leaders democratically.

Another group, called the G20, also meets each year. This group is made up of the G8 countries plus 11 others and the EU. China and Brazil are members of the G20. Recently the G8 has agreed that any internationally important financial decisions must be made at G20 meetings. This is because it includes the countries that have the world's fastest growing economies.

The agenda of the Deauville meeting included climate change, the Arab Spring, nuclear energy, and whether internet companies should have more rules and regulations. The Arab Spring is the name given to recent street demonstrations in several Arab countries such as Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria, Yemen and Bahrain. So far these have led to the presidents of Tunisia and Egypt being forced to step down. It was agreed that help should be given to those people in Arab countries who want more democratic freedoms.

Each G8 leader takes a turn to be the group's president. This year it was France's turn. Next year it passes to the USA, so the 2012 meeting will be held in America and hosted by its president, Barack Obama. ■

BLACKBEARD'S SHIP

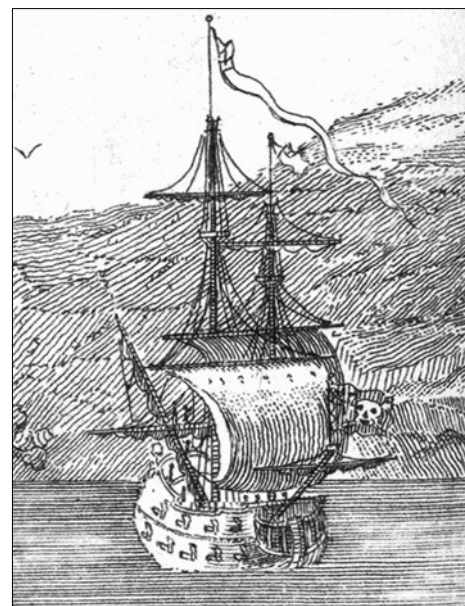
Blackbeard was a famous pirate who sailed his ship around the Caribbean and the coast of North America in the early 1700s. Recently marine archaeologists have managed to raise from the seabed a large anchor from his ship, which sank in 1718.

Blackbeard's real name is thought to have been Edward Teach. He got his nickname from his thick black beard. He was born in the UK and, in 1716, he joined a group of pirates operating in the Caribbean. Soon afterwards Blackbeard took control of a captured French ship, which he renamed the *Queen Anne's Revenge*.

Marine archaeologists first found the remains of the *Queen Anne's Revenge* just off the coast of the American state of North Carolina, in 1997. Since then, some small items have been picked up from the wreck. However, during a recent

two-week expedition the archaeologists managed to bring to the surface the largest item yet: one of the ship's anchors. Many of the metal objects from the ship have rusted together on the seabed. They will have to be brought up all together, and then carefully separated and restored.

In many books and films Blackbeard is portrayed as a very cruel man. Yet historians say he was really a popular and clever leader. Instead of using force he often tried to scare the ships' crews that he came up against. It's also thought that he never killed people he captured.



Queen Anne's Revenge

Historians also say Blackbeard took care not to damage the ships he attacked. This is because he wanted to capture both the ship and what it was carrying.

Some of the items found on the wreck of the *Queen Anne's Revenge* show this was probably true. Instead of firing normal cannonballs at other ships Blackbeard would use different things. These included nuts and bolts, and two cannonballs connected with a bar or chain. When fired these would spin and cut

through the ropes and sails of a ship. This would slow the ship he was attacking down, but not damage it too badly.

A few months after the *Queen Anne's Revenge* sank in 1718, Blackbeard was killed by British sailors.

The archaeologists plan to return to the wreck in the autumn. They say they hope to have collected everything from Blackbeard's ship by the end of 2013. The anchor and other items will be put on display in a museum. ■

INCAS AND LLAMAS DROPPINGS

Archaeologists based in Lima, the capital of Peru, have published a study on how the ancient Inca civilisation came into being. The study says the main reasons may have been the use of llama dung, or droppings, as a fertilizer.



Llamas in Peru

The Inca civilisation was centred around modern-day Peru. The Spanish eventually destroyed it after they arrived in this part of South America in the 1500s. At its most powerful, the Inca Empire included parts of what we now call Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile and Argentina.

People living in these parts of South America many thousands of years ago mainly hunted for their food and collected wild nuts, fruits and berries from the forests. They also ate wild quinoa, a local plant

that has small edible seeds. People who collected their food in this way are known as 'hunter-gatherers'.



■ Area covered by the Inca Empire

One reason for the start of ancient civilisations, say historians, is when people changed from being hunter-gatherers to organised farming. The archaeologists think this is what happened to the Incas' ancestors around 2,700 years ago. At this time they began to grow maize and potatoes in large quantities.

Both maize (also known as corn in many countries) and potatoes can be easily stored. Yet producing these crops in large quantities would only be possible in this region with the use of a good fertilizer. This, the archaeologists say, was llama dung, or manure.

Llamas are native to South America. The animals have been used for their meat and wool for thousands of years in the Andes Mountains. They are also used to carry heavy weights up and down steep mountainsides. Their dung is not just used as a fertilizer but also burned as a type of fuel.

The archaeologists studied seeds, pollen, and the remains of bugs they found in layers of mud in a small

lake. The deeper the layers of mud, the older they were. The bug remains were those of a type of insect that lives off llama dung. By counting the pollen and bugs in the layers of mud, the scientists could work out the dates when they became more common.

The mud layers show a sudden change to growing maize about 2,700 years ago. At the same time, it seems llamas were being brought to the area around the lake where their droppings could be easily collected. Then between the years 1100 and 1500, this part of South America became warmer. This meant the Inca people could, with the help of llama dung, grow more maize higher up the mountainsides.

As the Incas were now able to grow extra food it was possible for many of them to do things other than farming. This included being part of an army, and building large stone structures and long military roads. By doing this they were able to build up their empire. The archaeologists therefore believe that without llama dung there probably wouldn't have been an Inca civilisation. ■

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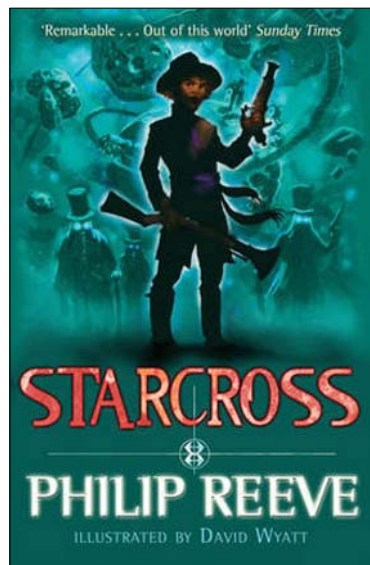
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B O O K R E V I E W

HAVE YOU READ ...?



Welcome to the Starcross Resort Hotel, the best (and only) seaside resort in the Asteroid Belt between Mars and Jupiter!

I hadn't even worked out the full implications of that sentence and I was already on a wild and highly imaginative ride across the Solar System. This book takes you back in time hundreds of millions of years, then hurtles you forward in time, then back again... and those are the easily

predictable events!

I found myself a little awed by the clever way in which the author draws you in and then lets everything slowly dawn on you. For example, I had to quickly grasp that the British Empire pretty much governs the Solar System (the American Revolution didn't turn out very well, but that's a deeper part of the story). The Solar System has been colonised, the asteroids mined, and trains connect most of the major spaceports to the distant outlying reaches of the Solar System.

As the book begins, Art Mumby, his sister Myrtle, and their parents are invited to spend a holiday at Starcross Asteroid Resort. It's a quick space flight out in a wooden aether ship, followed by an even shorter aether train ride from spaceport to Starcross asteroid.

Their dad can't make it, but their 4.5 billion-year-old mum, Emily, can come along (well actually, she's not that old, but her mind is that old and she has lived her past lives in countless different organisms.)

At the resort they are reunited with old friends from past adventures, including Jack Havoc, who has some explaining to do as he hasn't been answering Myrtle's love letters! On the first day, though, they make a rather gruesome discovery. A pair of trees on the beachside, the Venusian Changeling trees, were once a human couple staying at the resort! As they investigate the mystery and how to solve it, Art and Myrtle find they can't

know for certain if they can trust their friends. One thing they can be sure of, though, is that their enemies are not what they seem.

I really loved the [paradoxes](#) of this story. For instance, Mr Titfer, the owner and manager of Starcross, explains to his guests that the ocean is only gone for a little while, and will return when the tide comes in. When his guests view the desolate and dry sands of the asteroid they ask how long that will take. He explains that the tide has been out for 100 million years or so...yet he also says there is nothing to worry about since the tide comes in every 12 hours! I enjoyed trying to wrap my head around the seemingly impossible, only to read on and discover how it was actually all happening.

I enjoyed how the author made the events in the story mesh so seamlessly into a solid whole, while at the same time he split the [protagonists](#) up and made them fend for themselves – both in space, and even more alarmingly, in time. For example, Myrtle and Jack find themselves stranded on ancient Mars 100 million years in the past, forced to fight prehistoric creatures. Eventually they meet up with a French spy and help her to seek the wreck of an American flagship. Their adventures together give them a valuable clue to what's happening back in the present at the hotel.

I recommend this book to all readers aged 13 and up, or for anyone who enjoys time travelling stories. Starcross is the second in Philip Reeve's Larklight Trilogy.

Starcross by Philip Reeve. Bloomsbury plc

Reviewed by Chris Tarn

WANT US TO REVIEW A BOOK THAT YOU HAVE READ AND ENJOYED?

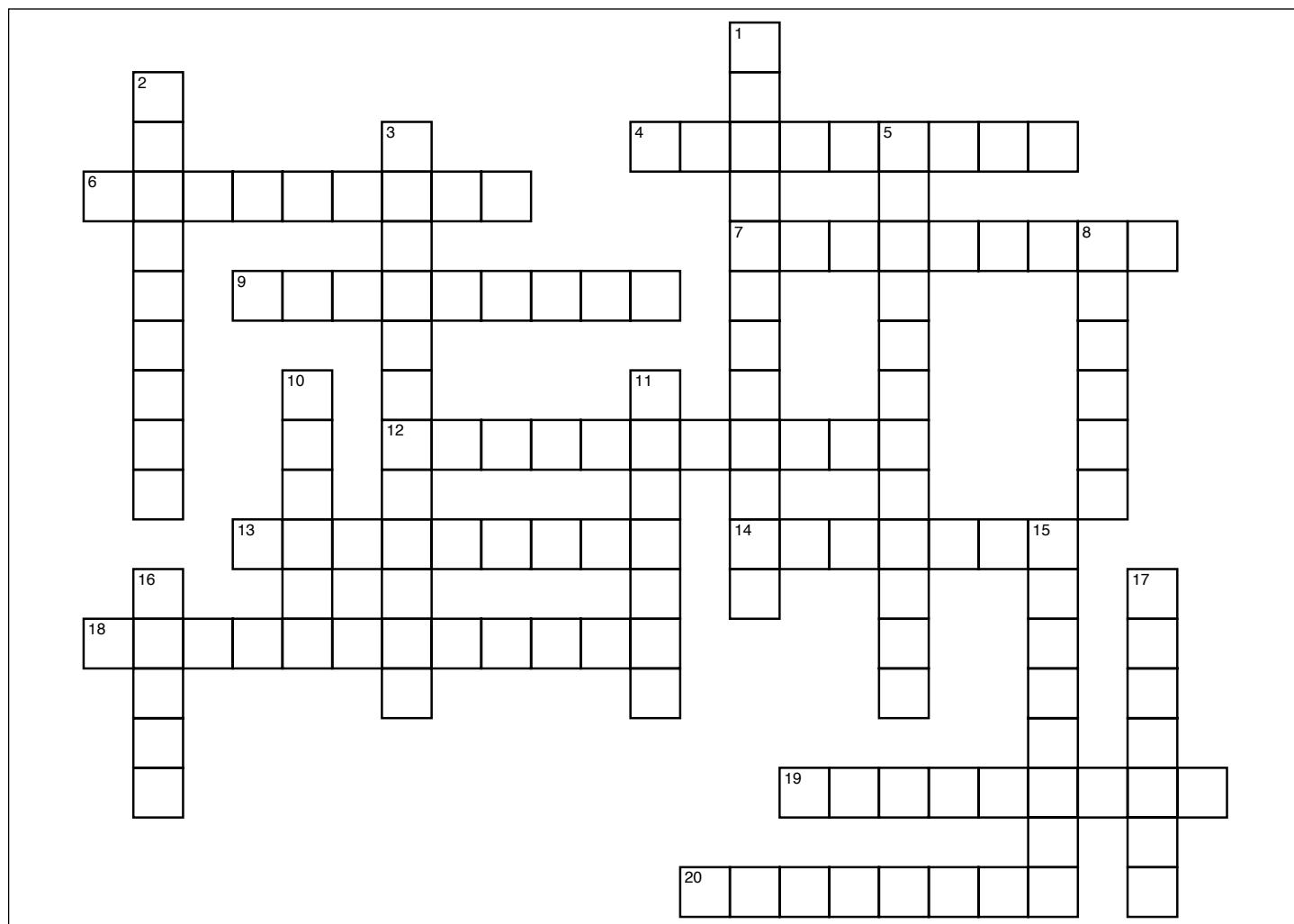
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ISSUE 146

GLOSSARY PUZZLE

INSTRUCTIONS: ① Complete the crossword. The answers are highlighted in orange in the news stories. There are 25 words highlighted and you need 20 of them to complete the crossword. ② Once you have solved the crossword go to the word search on the next page ➡



ACROSS

- 4 Verb** To get rid of completely
6 Noun (Plural) Small decorative objects
7 Noun A small group of people representing a larger organisation
9 Adjective Angry or annoyed at the unfairness or unreasonableness of something
12 Noun (Plural) Branches or areas of knowledge and study
13 Noun An organisation involved in scientific, educational or social work
14 Noun A framework made to a design of strips of wood or metal
18 Noun (Plural) The main characters in a story or play
19 Verb To show, describe or depict someone or something in a book, film or play
20 Noun A group of signs and symptoms that when put together indicate, or are characteristic of, a disease or other illness

DOWN

- 1 Adjective** Impossible or very difficult to reach
2 Noun (Plural) Statements in which it seems that if one part of the statement is true, the other part cannot be true
3 Noun The act of making a person or group of people do something by using threats or making them feel fearful
5 Noun Something, usually money, given to make up for loss, suffering, or injury
8 Adjective Relating to a group that shares a religious, cultural or racial background
10 Noun A list of things that are to be decided upon or discussed at a meeting
11 Verb To get an opponent's goodwill or make peace, often by offering something
15 Verb Search for or remove something by digging in the ground
16 Adjective Likely to do or suffer from something
17 Verb To make something into a liquid

ISSUE 146

GLOSSARY PUZZLE *CONTINUED*

N O I T A D I M I T N I I X S I B P
 O B N Z H V D Y P O R T R A Y E D R
 I Y D F E I B H F E W Q T W N W B O
 T V I J H R H C Y E P Z V V D R P T
 A Z G A Q X S B O H U W T R R A X A
 S W N G I Z I V B M E Q V L O Q V G
 N O A E C I T T A L M T I K M I N O
 E Z N N A I T O E F Q I A L E Y Q N
 P B T D W A U R Z I N K T V S H B I
 M V S A U C A P I V T Q X T A F M S
 O E Q S Y D Q N A Y M P T E E C C T
 C T M S I C S X X R A N J Z P E X S
 V K O C W T Y Z A Q A T E X P I W E
 F Q A M I X B A O A F D N T A T K O
 A T T T G T B D A T W Z O A H P F L
 E T U S T N E M A N R O R X N N D R
 I T W M J Y W P I F Z V P N E I I Q
 E L B I S S E C C A N I W T Z S T C

INSTRUCTIONS: ③ Find 19 of the 20 crossword answers in the word search. Words can go vertically, horizontally, diagonally and back to front. ④ After finding the 19 words write down the 20th (or missing) word under the puzzle.

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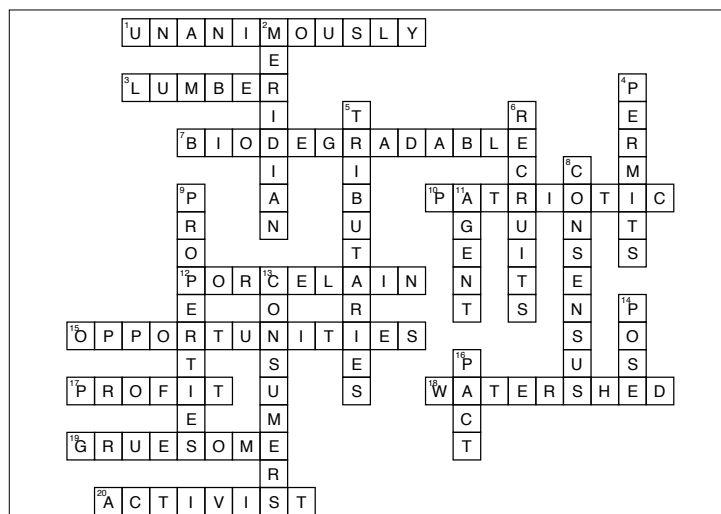


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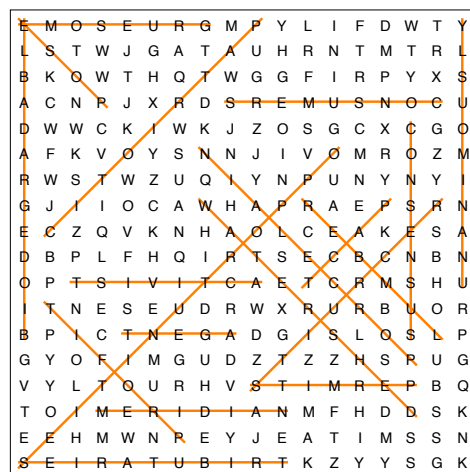
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If you wish to earn additional Demics log in to www.newsademic.com, go to the Prize Competitions area and submit the missing word. Puzzle entries must be submitted by 10 pm on 15th June 2011 (GMT/UTC).*

MISSING WORD ANSWER =



ISSUE 145 ANSWERS



PROPERTIES